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Message Text

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42
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OMB-01 EUR-12 ARA-06 SAM-01

DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 COM-02

TRSE-00 OPIC-03 /097 W
---------- 030562
R 061230Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1684
INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 0458

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP SHUM GV PU LE SG XY
SUBJECT: TROUBLES FOR LEBANESE IN GUINEA BISSAU

1. LEBANESE AMBASSADOR CHARAF SAYS HIS COLONY OF ABOUT 300 IN GUINEA BISSAU IS UNDER TREMENDOUS PRESSURE. BISSAU GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT ALL PROPERTY BELONGING TO INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY WHO DID NOT RETURN BY 1 FEB 76 WOULD BE CONFISCATED. FURTHERMORE, ALL BACK PROFITS OR RENT REVENUES ON SUCH PROPERTY SINCE INDEPENDENCE WOULD BE BLOCKED AND CONFISCATED. MOST SENIOR AND WEALTHY LEBANESE MERCAHNT, WHO HAS BEEN IN PORTUGAL, RUSHED BACK TO BISSAU JANUARY 26. HE IS NOW REFUSED PERMISSION TO LEAVE COUNTRY AGAIN AND WILL APPARENTLY LOSE HIS CONSIDERABLE POSSESSIONS ANYWAY.

3. CHARAF, ALTHOUGH NOT ACCREDITED TO BISSAU, HAS RECEIVED STRONG INSTRUCTIONS FROM BEIRUT AND WILL VISIT BISSAU MARCH 11 TO LODGE PROTEST. HE IS NOT OPTIMISTIC. CHARAF BELIEVES BISSAU GOVERNMENT IS INCREASINGLY UNDER INFLUENCE OF SOVIETS, EAST GERMANS AND CUBANS AND IS SUSCEPTIBLE TO RADICAL ADVICE OF GUINEA. NOT CLEAR TO WHAT EXTENT PORTU-
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GUESE AND OTHER NATIONALITIES AS WELL AS LEBANESE ARE SUFFERING

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UNDER CONFISCATION POLICY.
HARROP

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Type: TE
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